

Q2 2017



Quarterly Market Review

Quarterly Market Review

Second Quarter 2017

This report features world capital market performance and a timeline of events for the last quarter. It begins with a global overview, then features the returns of stock and bond asset classes in the US and international markets.

The report also illustrates the impact of globally diversified portfolios and features a quarterly topic.

Overview:

WealthStone Client Letter

Quarterly Topic: When Rates Go Up, Do Stocks Go Down?

Market Summary

World Stock Market Performance

World Asset Classes

US Stocks

International Developed Stocks

Emerging Markets Stocks

Select Country Performance

Select Currency Performance vs. US Dollar

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

Commodities

Fixed Income

Impact of Diversification

**"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree long time ago."
- Warren Buffett**

The above quote builds on one of our philosophical keystones regarding, “Be disciplined and allow markets to work for you.” We believe discipline and patience are key traits to successful long-term investing. Results are not instant, results take time. Historically, both bonds and stocks have provided growth of wealth over and above inflation. Giving your investment portfolio purpose is important in the context of knowing what goals and time horizon are associated with your investment portfolio. This alone, can help manage emotions when the going gets tough every once in a while. Should you become worried about short-term volatility if your time horizon is long-term? Probably not. We may get anxious but understanding the purpose of your investment portfolio can help add discipline and remove emotional decisions that often can trip up investors. Remember, financial markets have rewarded long-term investors. Know that WealthStone strives to ensure that your portfolio has purpose and that it is working to help meet your goals over time. Having a road map of where you are going is important to help reach your destination. We help you create that financial road map.

Recently, we have received questions from clients and prospects regarding our opinion with respect to the interest rate cycle. As you are probably aware, the Federal Reserve has continued its tightening stance raising short-term interest rates and giving some guidance as to their intent to reduce their balance sheet size over time. As such, many clients have been curious what higher interest rates may portend for stocks. In short, even with full knowledge of how interest rates may change, this information offers little guidance about subsequent stock returns. While it makes for good short-term headlines, we suggest you are better off sticking to your investment strategy and financial plan. This allows capital markets to work for you and capture what the markets have to offer. Please reference the article by Dimensional Fund Advisors LP titled – “When Rates Go Up, Do Stocks Go Down?”

WealthStone is growing its total headcount. Offering career tracks and opportunities for our associates is important to attract and retain talent. Many of you have learned to know one of our associates over the years. Jordan Acer’s leadership as Director of Investment Operations the past few years has resulted in highly efficient, accurate and timely client service. As Jordan’s long-term goal is to spend time with clients, he is transitioning to a lead advisor role at WealthStone. We are excited for Jordan and wish him well in his new role.

You can continue to expect great service from WealthStone’s investment team. In light of Jordan’s transition, we are happy to announce our newest asset management team member, Kevin Kull, who will serve as Director of Investment Operations. Kevin joins us from Huntington National Bank’s Asset Management Division where he spent 14 years and recently helped oversee \$17-billion in assets under management. Kevin will be a key team member in providing day-to-day leadership around investment operations including portfolio model maintenance, trading and performance reporting. Kevin is well credentialed having a B.A. in Accounting from Otterbein College, an MBA with a focus in Finance from Franklin University, as well as having earned his Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Certified Public Accountant (CPA) designations.

If you have questions regarding your portfolio, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are happy to schedule time to meet in person or remotely to offer an investment review.

Thank you for your continued trust!

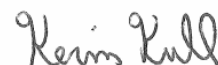
Your investment team,



Christian Hviid, CFA®
Chief Investment Officer



Brian Stertzer, CFP, CPA (Inactive)
Managing Director



Kevin Kull, CPA, CFA®
Director of Investment Operations

When Rates Go Up, Do Stocks Go Down?

Second Quarter 2017

Should stock investors worry about changes in interest rates?

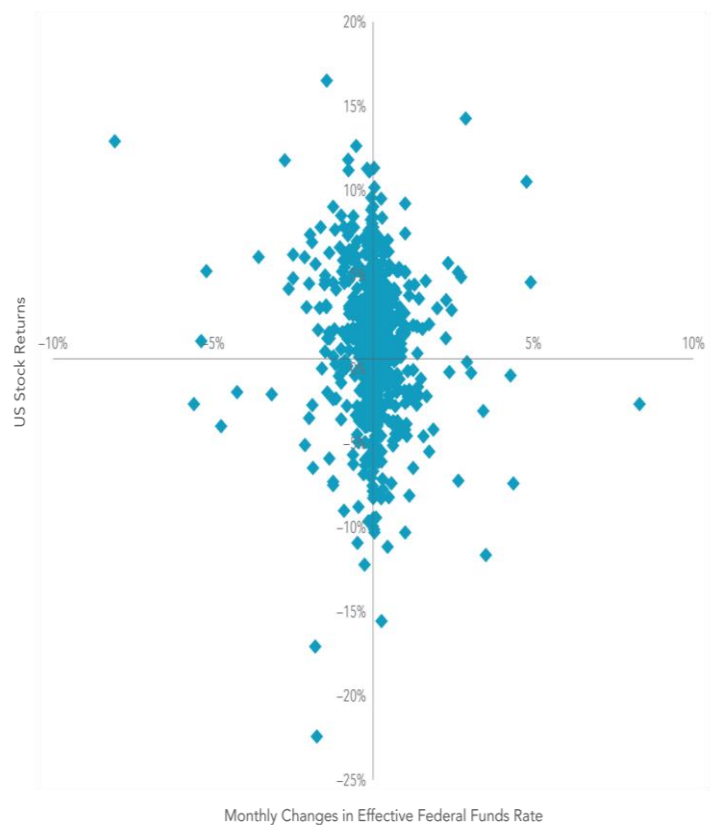
Research shows that, like stock prices, changes in interest rates and bond prices are largely unpredictable.¹ It follows that an investment strategy based upon attempting to exploit these sorts of changes isn't likely to be a fruitful endeavor. Despite the unpredictable nature of interest rate changes, investors may still be curious about what might happen to stocks if interest rates go up.

Unlike bond prices, which tend to go down when yields go up, stock prices might rise or fall with changes in interest rates. For stocks, it can go either way because a stock's price depends on both future cash flows to investors and the discount rate they apply to those expected cash flows. When interest rates rise, the discount rate may increase, which in turn could cause the price of the stock to fall. However, it is also possible that when interest rates change, expectations about future cash flows expected from holding a stock also change. So, if theory doesn't tell us what the overall effect should be, the next question is what does the data say?

Recent Research

Recent research performed by Dimensional Fund Advisors helps provide insight into this question.² The research examines the correlation between monthly US stock returns and changes in interest rates.³ Exhibit 1 shows that while there is a lot of noise in stock returns and no clear pattern, not much of that variation appears to be related to changes in the effective federal funds rate.⁴

Exhibit 1. Monthly US Stock Returns against Monthly Changes in Effective Federal Funds Rate, August 1954–December 2016



Monthly US stock returns are defined as the monthly return of the Fama/French Total US Market Index and are compared to contemporaneous monthly changes in the effective federal funds rate. Bond yield changes are obtained from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

1. See, for example, Fama 1976, Fama 1984, Fama and Bliss 1987, Campbell and Shiller 1991, and Duffee 2002.

2. Wei Dai, "Interest Rates and Equity Returns" (Dimensional Fund Advisors, April 2017).

3. US stock market defined as Fama/French Total US Market Index.

4. The federal funds rate is the interest rate at which depository institutions lend funds maintained at the Federal Reserve to another depository institution overnight.

When Rates Go Up, Do Stocks Go Down?

(continued from page 4)

For example, in months when the federal funds rate rose, stock returns were as low as -15.56% and as high as 14.27%. In months when rates fell, returns ranged from -22.41% to 16.52%. Given that there are many other interest rates besides just the federal funds rate, Dai also examined longer-term interest rates and found similar results.

So to address our initial question: when rates go up, do stock prices go down? The answer is yes, but only about 40% of the time. In the remaining 60% of months, stock returns were positive. This split between positive and negative returns was about the same when examining all months, not just those in which rates went up. In other words, there is not a clear link between stock returns and interest rate changes.

CONCLUSION

There's no evidence that investors can reliably predict changes in interest rates. Even with perfect knowledge of what will happen with future interest rate changes, this information provides little guidance about subsequent stock returns. Instead, staying invested and avoiding the temptation to make changes based on short-term predictions may increase the likelihood of consistently capturing what the stock market has to offer.

GLOSSARY

Discount Rate: Also known as the “required rate of return,” this is the expected return investors demand for holding a stock.

Correlation: A statistical measure that indicates the extent to which two variables are related or move together. Correlation is positive when two variables tend to move in the same direction and negative when they tend to move in opposite directions.

INDEX DESCRIPTIONS

Fama/French Total US Market Index: Provided by Fama/French from CRSP securities data. Includes all US operating companies trading on the NYSE, AMEX, or Nasdaq NMS. Excludes ADRs, investment companies, tracking stocks, non-US incorporated companies, closed-end funds, certificates, shares of beneficial interests, and Berkshire Hathaway Inc. (Permco 540).

Source: Dimensional Fund Advisors LP.

Results shown during periods prior to each Index's index inception date do not represent actual returns of the respective index. Other periods selected may have different results, including losses. Backtested index performance is hypothetical and is provided for informational purposes only to indicate historical performance had the index been calculated over the relevant time periods. Backtested performance results assume the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains.

Eugene Fama and Ken French are members of the Board of Directors for and provide consulting services to Dimensional Fund Advisors LP.

There is no guarantee investment strategies will be successful. Investing involves risks including possible loss of principal.

All expressions of opinion are subject to change. This article is distributed for informational purposes, and it is not to be construed as an offer, solicitation, recommendation, or endorsement of any particular security, products, or services.

Market Summary

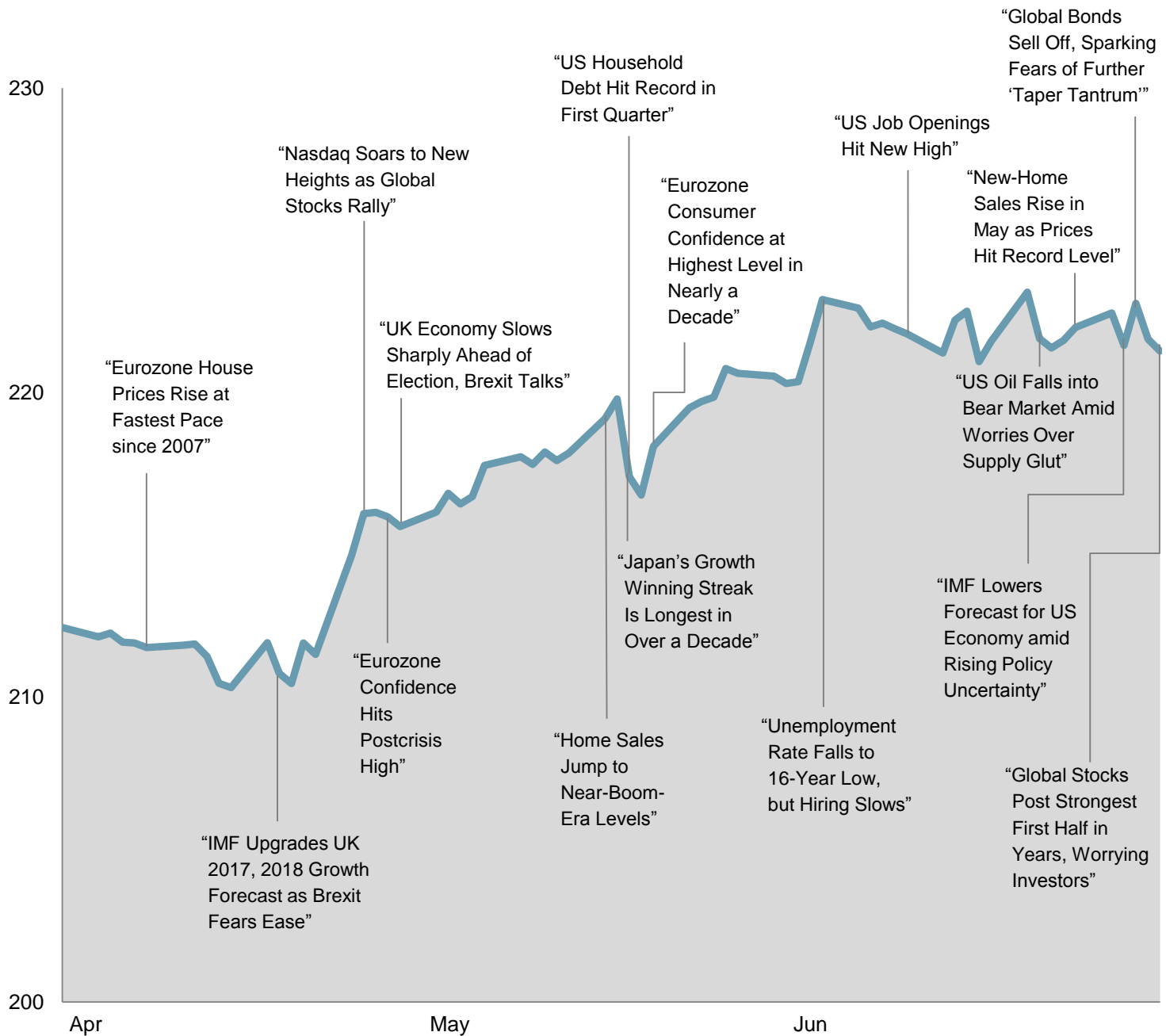
Index Returns

	US Stock Market	International Developed Stocks	Emerging Markets Stocks	Global Real Estate		US Bond Market	Global Bond Market ex US
Q2 2017	STOCKS					BONDS	
	3.02%	5.63%	6.27%	1.67%		1.45%	0.60%
Since Jan. 2001							
Avg. Quarterly Return	1.9%	1.5%	3.1%	2.7%		1.2%	1.1%
Best Quarter	16.8% Q2 2009	25.9% Q2 2009	34.7% Q2 2009	32.3% Q3 2009		4.6% Q3 2001	5.5% Q4 2008
Worst Quarter	-22.8% Q4 2008	-21.2% Q4 2008	-27.6% Q4 2008	-36.1% Q4 2008		-3.0% Q4 2016	-3.2% Q2 2015

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: US Stock Market (Russell 3000 Index), International Developed Stocks (MSCI World ex USA Index [net div.]), Emerging Markets (MSCI Emerging Markets Index [net div.]), Global Real Estate (S&P Global REIT Index [net div.]), US Bond Market (Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index), and Global Bond ex US Market (Citi WGBI ex USA 1-30 Years [Hedged to USD]). The S&P data are provided by Standard & Poor's Index Services Group. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg. Citi fixed income indices copyright 2017 by Citigroup.

World Stock Market Performance

MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from Q2 2017



These headlines are not offered to explain market returns. Instead, they serve as a reminder that investors should view daily events from a long-term perspective and avoid making investment decisions based solely on the news.

Graph Source: MSCI ACWI Index [net div.], MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Performance does not reflect the expenses associated with management of an actual portfolio. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

World Stock Market Performance

MSCI All Country World Index with selected headlines from past 12 months

Short Term (Q3 2016–Q2 2017)



These headlines are not offered to explain market returns. Instead, they serve as a reminder that investors should view daily events from a long-term perspective and avoid making investment decisions based solely on the news.

Graph Source: MSCI ACWI Index [net div.]. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved.

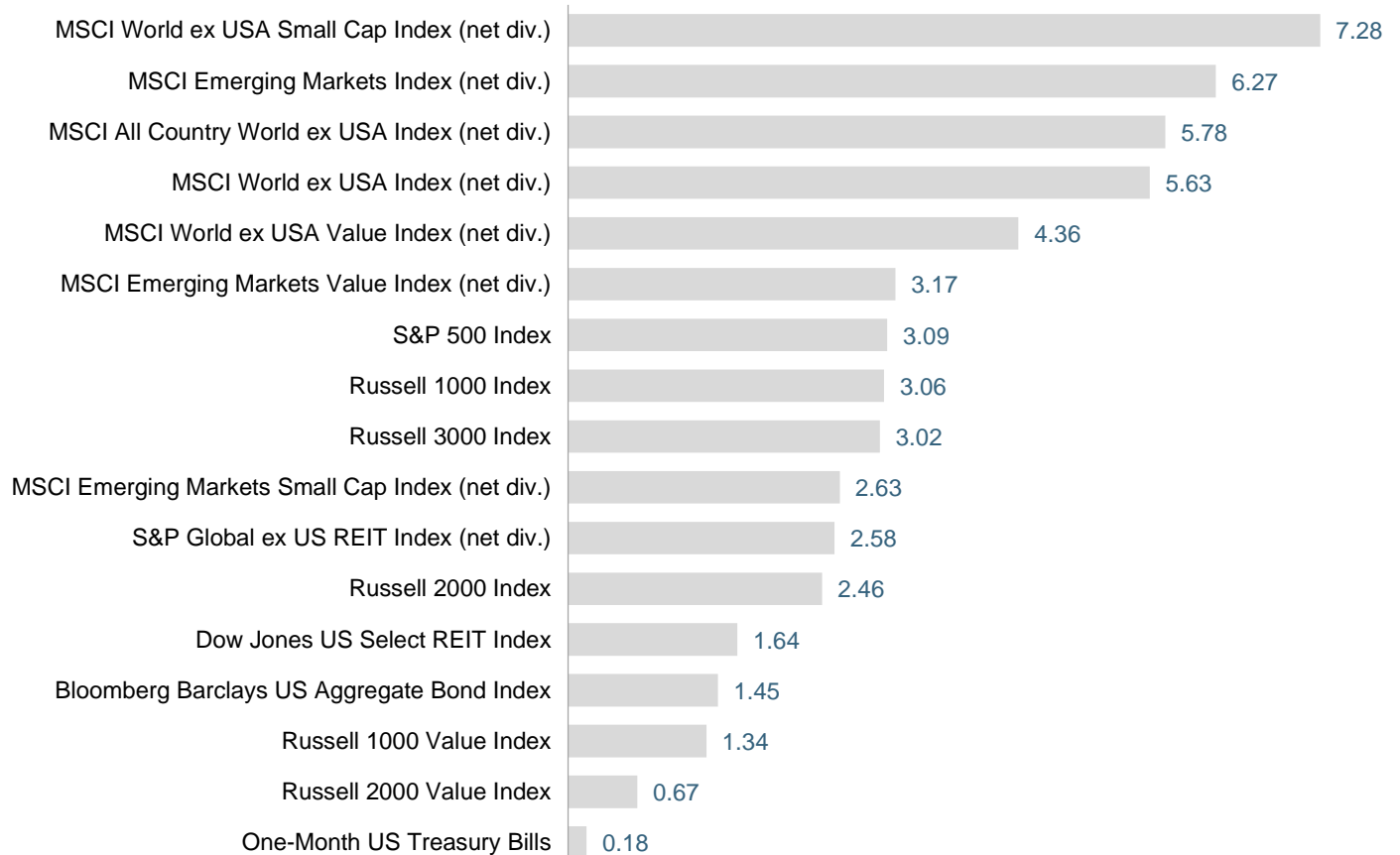
It is not possible to invest directly in an index. Performance does not reflect the expenses associated with management of an actual portfolio. Past performance is not a guarantee of future results.

World Asset Classes

Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns (%)

Looking at broad market indices, non-US developed markets and emerging markets recorded similar returns, outperforming the US during the quarter.

The value effect was negative in the US, non-US, and emerging markets. Small caps outperformed large caps in non-US developed markets but underperformed in the US and emerging markets.



Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. The S&P data is provided by Standard & Poor's Index Services Group. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. Dow Jones data (formerly Dow Jones Wilshire) provided by Dow Jones Indices. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg. Treasury bills © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefeld).

US Stocks

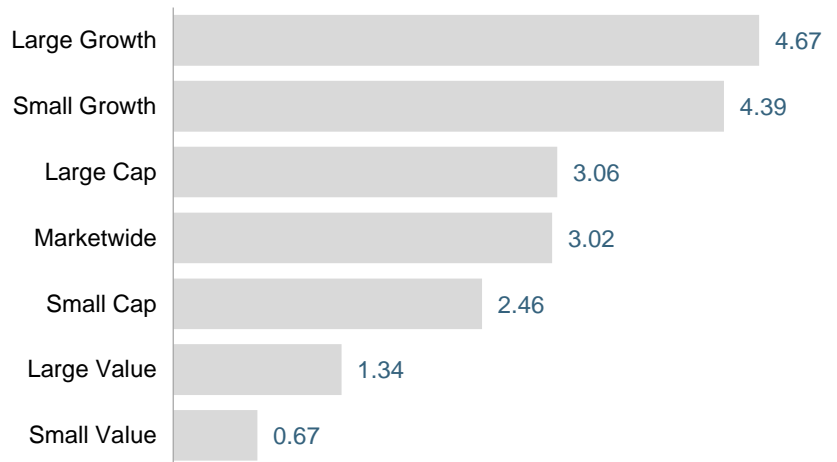
Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

The broad US equity market posted positive returns for the quarter but underperformed both non-US developed and emerging markets.

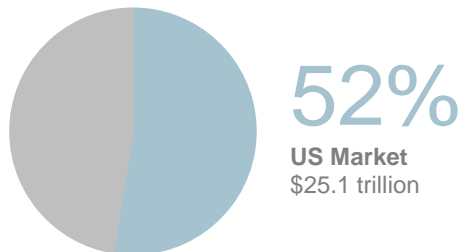
Value underperformed growth indices in the US across all size ranges.

Small caps in the US underperformed large caps.

Ranked Returns for the Quarter (%)



World Market Capitalization—US



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Marketwide	8.93	18.51	9.10	14.58	7.26
Large Cap	9.27	18.03	9.26	14.67	7.29
Large Value	4.66	15.53	7.36	13.94	5.57
Large Growth	13.99	20.42	11.11	15.30	8.91
Small Cap	4.99	24.60	7.36	13.70	6.92
Small Value	0.54	24.86	7.02	13.39	5.92
Small Growth	9.97	24.40	7.64	13.98	7.82

* Annualized

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: Marketwide (Russell 3000 Index), Large Cap (Russell 1000 Index), Large Cap Value (Russell 1000 Value Index), Large Cap Growth (Russell 1000 Growth Index), Small Cap (Russell 2000 Index), Small Cap Value (Russell 2000 Value Index), and Small Cap Growth (Russell 2000 Growth Index). World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. Russell 3000 Index is used as the proxy for the US market. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved.

International Developed Stocks

Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

In US dollar terms, developed markets outperformed the US equity market and had similar performance to emerging markets indices during the quarter.

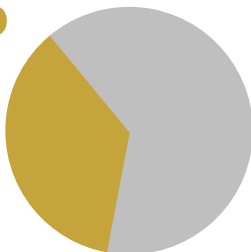
Looking at broad market indices, the value effect was negative across all size ranges in non-US developed markets.

Small caps outperformed large caps in non-US developed markets.

World Market Capitalization— International Developed

36%

International
Developed
Market
\$17.5 trillion



Ranked Returns (%)



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Large Cap	12.82	19.49	0.67	8.15	1.00
Small Cap	15.45	21.26	4.02	11.43	2.92
Value	10.27	24.24	-0.94	7.69	0.09
Growth	15.57	14.90	2.22	8.54	1.84

* Annualized

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI World ex USA Index), Small Cap (MSCI World ex USA Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI World ex USA Value Index), and Growth (MSCI World ex USA Growth). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. MSCI World ex USA IMI Index is used as the proxy for the International Developed market. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.

Emerging Markets Stocks

Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

In US dollar terms, emerging markets indices outperformed the US and recorded similar performance to developed markets outside the US.

Looking at broad market indices, the value effect was negative across all size ranges in emerging markets.

Small caps underperformed large caps in emerging markets.

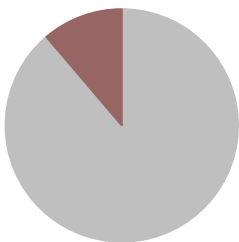
Ranked Returns (%)



World Market Capitalization— Emerging Markets

11%

Emerging Markets
\$5.4 trillion



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Large Cap	18.43	23.75	1.07	3.96	1.91
Small Cap	15.99	17.03	0.81	5.15	2.17
Value	13.65	21.57	-1.33	1.67	1.53
Growth	23.45	25.99	3.42	6.18	2.22

* Annualized

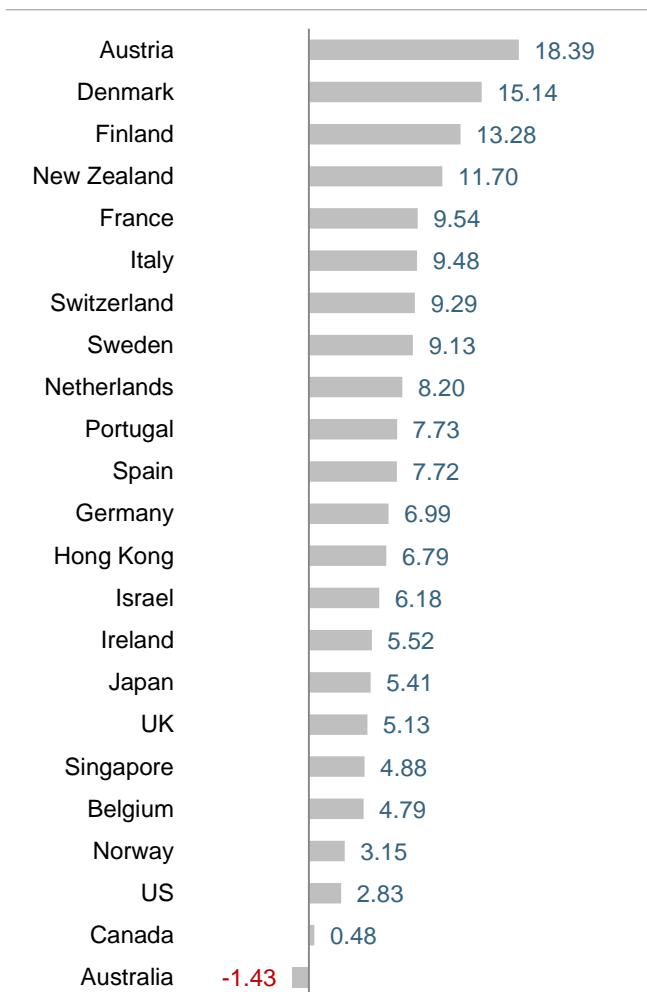
Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Market segment (index representation) as follows: Large Cap (MSCI Emerging Markets Index), Small Cap (MSCI Emerging Markets Small Cap Index), Value (MSCI Emerging Markets Value Index), and Growth (MSCI Emerging Markets Growth Index). All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. World Market Cap represented by Russell 3000 Index, MSCI World ex USA IMI Index, and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index used as the proxy for the emerging market portion of the market. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. Frank Russell Company is the source and owner of the trademarks, service marks, and copyrights related to the Russell Indexes.

Select Country Performance

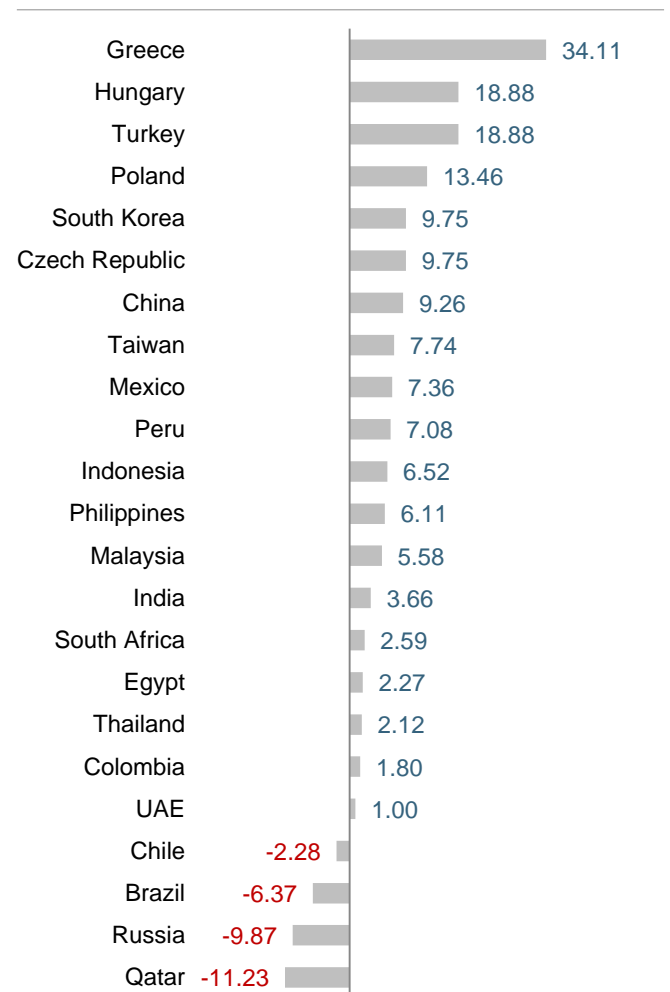
Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

In US dollar terms, Austria and Denmark recorded the highest country performance in developed markets, while Australia and Canada posted the lowest returns for the quarter. In emerging markets, Greece, Hungary, and Turkey posted the highest country returns, while Qatar and Russia had the lowest performance.

Ranked Developed Markets Returns (%)



Ranked Emerging Markets Returns (%)



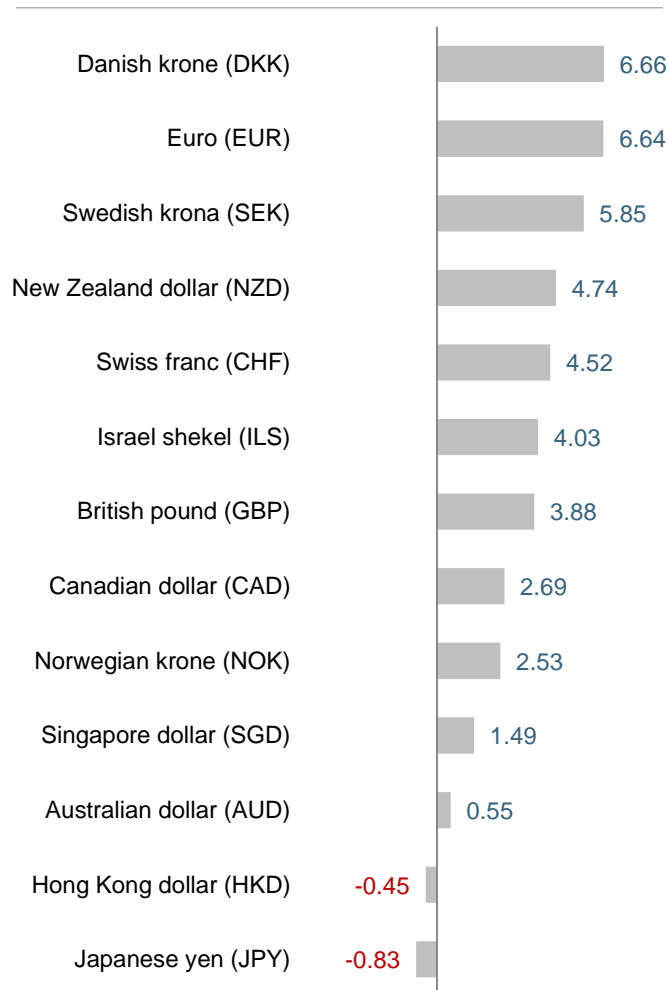
Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Country performance based on respective indices in the MSCI World ex US IMI Index (for developed markets), MSCI USA IMI Index (for US), and MSCI Emerging Markets IMI Index. All returns in USD and net of withholding tax on dividends. MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. UAE and Qatar have been reclassified as emerging markets by MSCI, effective May 2014.

Select Currency Performance vs. US Dollar

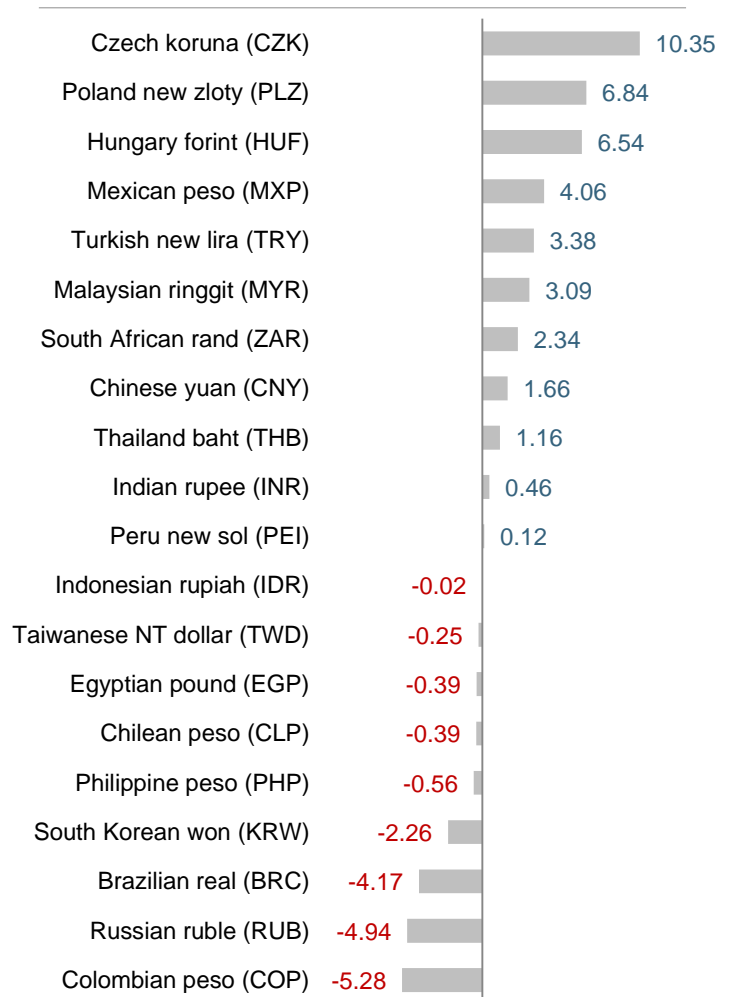
Second Quarter 2017

Most non-US developed currencies appreciated against the US dollar during the quarter, with the Danish krone and the euro experiencing the biggest gains. Emerging markets currencies were mixed vs. the US dollar. The Czech koruna appreciated by more than 10%, while the Russian ruble, Brazilian real, and Colombian peso depreciated by more than 4%.

Ranked Developed Markets Returns (%)



Ranked Emerging Markets Returns (%)



Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.

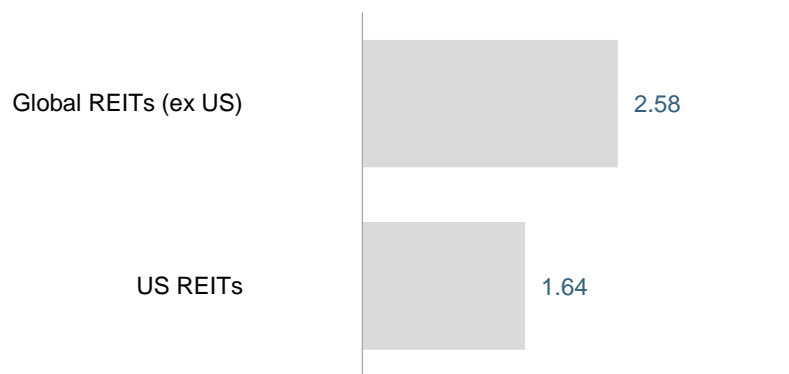
MSCI data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved.

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

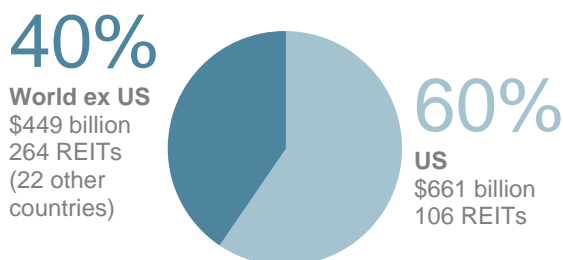
Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

Non-US real estate investment trusts outperformed US REITs.

Ranked Returns (%)



Total Value of REIT Stocks



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
US REITs	1.36	-2.43	8.04	9.00	5.42
Global REITs (ex US)	6.30	-0.37	1.13	6.86	0.20

* Annualized

Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Number of REIT stocks and total value based on the two indices. All index returns are net of withholding tax on dividends. Total value of REIT stocks represented by Dow Jones US Select REIT Index and the S&P Global ex US REIT Index. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index used as proxy for the US market, and S&P Global ex US REIT Index used as proxy for the World ex US market. Dow Jones US Select REIT Index data provided by Dow Jones ©. S&P Global ex US REIT Index data provided by Standard and Poor's Index Services Group © 2017.

Commodities

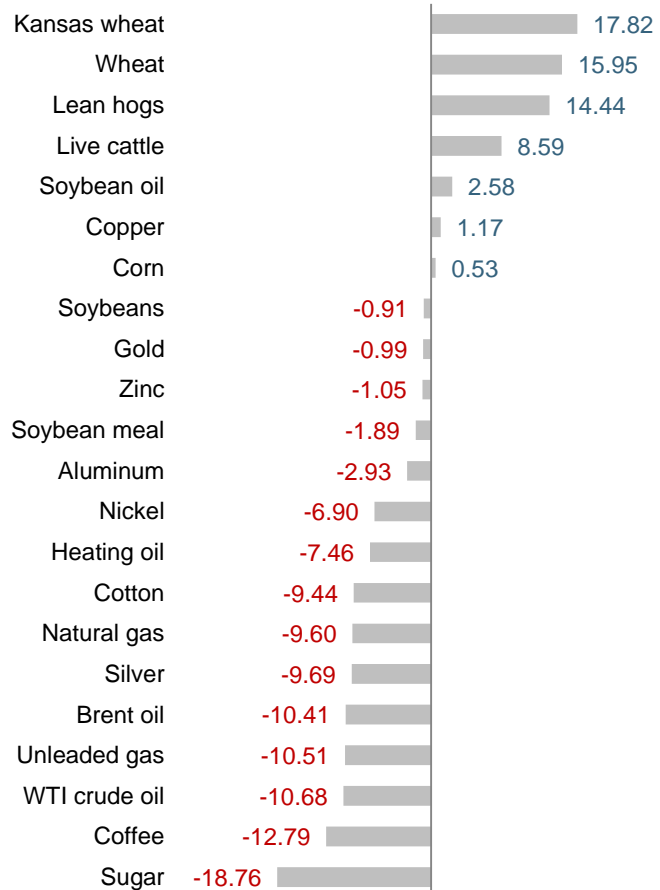
Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

The Bloomberg Commodity Index Total Return declined 3.00% during the second quarter.

The livestock and grains complexes led quarterly performance, with lean hogs returning 14.44%, live cattle 8.59%, wheat (Chicago) 15.95%, and wheat (Kansas) 17.82%.

Softs was the worst-performing complex, with sugar and coffee declining 18.76% and 12.79%, respectively. Cotton also experienced a decline, losing 9.44%.

Ranked Returns for Individual Commodities (%)



Period Returns (%)

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Commodities	-5.26	-6.50	-14.81	-9.25	-6.49

* Annualized

Fixed Income

Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

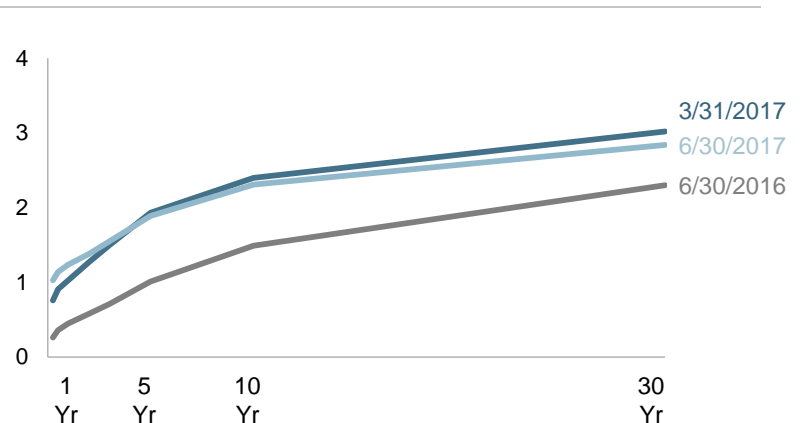
Interest rates were mixed across the US fixed income market during the second quarter. The yield on the 5-year Treasury note decreased 4 basis points (bps) to 1.89%. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note decreased 9 bps to 2.31%. The 30-year Treasury bond yield decreased 18 bps to finish at 2.84%.

The yield on the 1-year Treasury bill rose 21 bps to 1.24%, and the 2-year Treasury note yield rose 11 bps to 1.38%. The yield on the 3-month Treasury bill climbed 27 bps to 1.03%, while the 6-month Treasury bill yield increased 23 bps to 1.14%.

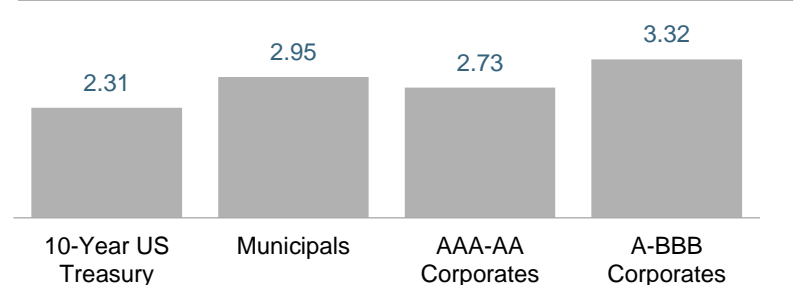
In terms of total returns, short-term corporate bonds gained 0.59% and intermediate corporates gained 1.49%.

Short-term municipal bonds gained 0.56%, while intermediate muni bonds returned 1.97%. Revenue bonds gained 2.19%, outperforming general obligation bonds by 39 bps.

US Treasury Yield Curve (%)



Bond Yields across Issuers (%)



Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*
Bloomberg Barclays Long US Government Bond Index	5.44	-6.96	5.54	2.82	7.27
Bloomberg Barclays Municipal Bond Index	3.57	-0.49	3.33	3.26	4.60
Bloomberg Barclays US Aggregate Bond Index	2.27	-0.31	2.48	2.21	4.48
Bloomberg Barclays US Corporate High Yield Index	4.93	12.70	4.48	6.89	7.67
Bloomberg Barclays US TIPS Index	0.85	-0.63	0.63	0.27	4.27
BofA Merrill Lynch 1-Year US Treasury Note Index	0.30	0.40	0.41	0.37	1.21
BofA Merrill Lynch Three-Month US Treasury Bill Index	0.31	0.49	0.23	0.17	0.58
Citi World Government Bond Index 1-5 Years (hedged to USD)	0.65	0.28	1.30	1.37	2.52

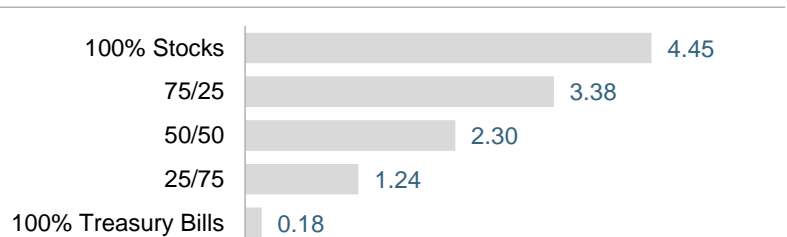
Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect the expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio. Yield curve data from Federal Reserve. State and local bonds are from the S&P National AMT-Free Municipal Bond Index. AAA-AA Corporates represent the Bank of America Merrill Lynch US Corporates, AA-AAA rated. A-BBB Corporates represent the Bank of America Merrill Lynch US Corporates, BBB-A rated. Bloomberg Barclays data provided by Bloomberg. US long-term bonds, bills, inflation, and fixed income factor data © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation (SBBI) Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefeld). Citi fixed income indices copyright 2017 by Citigroup. The BofA Merrill Lynch Indices are used with permission; © 2017 Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated; all rights reserved. Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of America Corporation. The S&P data are provided by Standard & Poor's Index Services Group.

Impact of Diversification

Second Quarter 2017 Index Returns

These portfolios illustrate the performance of different global stock/bond mixes and highlight the benefits of diversification. Mixes with larger allocations to stocks are considered riskier but have higher expected returns over time.

Ranked Returns (%)

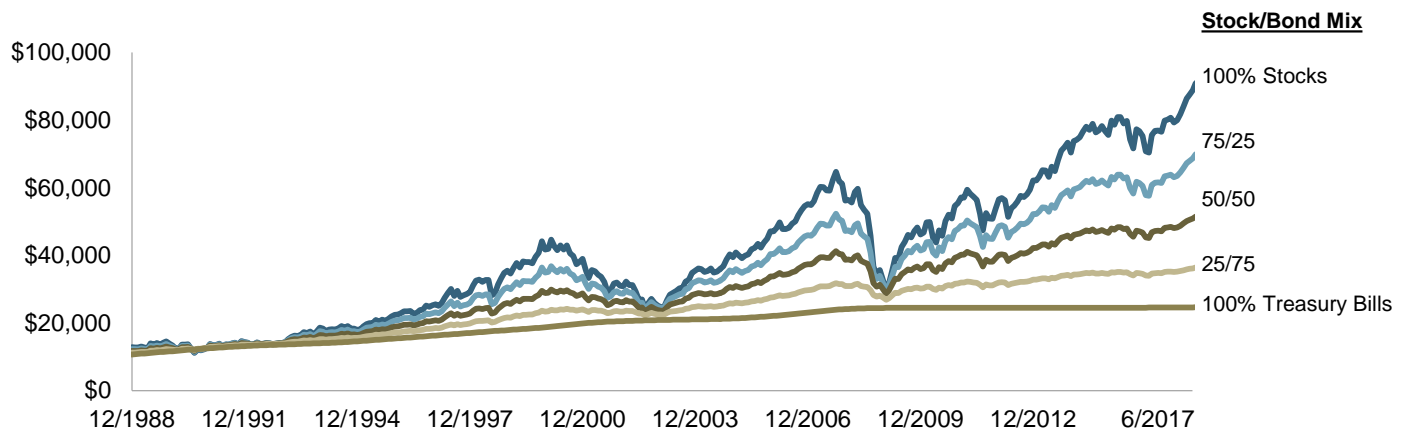


Period Returns (%)

* Annualized

Asset Class	YTD	1 Year	3 Years*	5 Years*	10 Years*	10-Year STDEV ¹
100% Stocks	11.82	19.42	5.39	11.14	4.27	16.96
75/25	8.84	14.41	4.17	8.38	3.60	12.71
50/50	5.93	9.57	2.89	5.62	2.73	8.46
25/75	3.08	4.90	1.56	2.87	1.68	4.22
100% Treasury Bills	0.29	0.40	0.17	0.12	0.45	0.29

Growth of Wealth: The Relationship between Risk and Return



1. STDEV (standard deviation) is a measure of the variation or dispersion of a set of data points. Standard deviations are often used to quantify the historical return volatility of a security or portfolio.

Diversification does not eliminate the risk of market loss. **Past performance is not a guarantee of future results. Indices are not available for direct investment. Index performance does not reflect expenses associated with the management of an actual portfolio.** Asset allocations and the hypothetical index portfolio returns are for illustrative purposes only and do not represent actual performance. Global Stocks represented by MSCI All Country World Index (gross div.) and Treasury Bills represented by US One-Month Treasury Bills. Globally diversified allocations rebalanced monthly, no withdrawals. Data © MSCI 2017, all rights reserved. Treasury bills © Stocks, Bonds, Bills, and Inflation Yearbook™, Ibbotson Associates, Chicago (annually updated work by Roger G. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefeld).